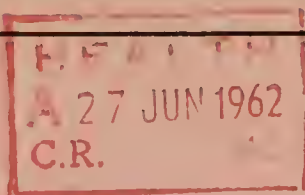


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URBAN DISTRICT OF BLETCHLEY



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER

of

HEALTH

for the year

1961

URBAN DISTRICT OF BLETCHLEY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
for the year
1961

Chairman of the Council: Councillor Mrs. D. J. RAMSBOTHAM

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: Councillor C. G. O. CLARKE

Councillors: L. H. COWLEY, E. G. DANIELS, F. EVANS,
W. GRAVER, G. LUMB, Mrs. D. J. RAMSBOTHAM

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

D. H. WALDRON, O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M., & H., COL.I.M.S. (RETD.)

(The Medical Officer of Health is also M.O.H. for Buckingham M.B., the Urban Districts of Linslade, Newport Pagnell and Wolverton, the Rural Districts of Buckingham, Newport Pagnell and Wing, Area M.O. for North Bucks and Divisional M.O. for the North Bucks Division and the Buckingham and Winslow District.)

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

R. E. ATKINSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., (from 1-8-61)

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector:

J. F. SMITHIE, O.B.E., M.I.MUN.E., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

N. J. ADAMS, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

To the Chairman and Councillors of the Urban District of Bletchley

May 21st, 1962

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1961.

The Birth Rate shows a rise over last year, being three points higher than the rate for the County, and four points higher than that for England and Wales. It was the second highest rate out of the 20 Districts in the County.

The Death Rate shows a slight increase over the previous year but still remains below that for the County and England and Wales.

The Infantile Mortality Rate shows a rise. There were eight deaths in this group, six of which were under the age of four weeks.

Once again I am pleased to record another year of cordial co-operation with your Clerk, your Surveyor and Chief Health Inspector and their staffs.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

D. H. WALDRON.

SECTION A

VITAL STATISTICS

				1960	1961
Area (in acres)	...	...	...	4459	4459
Population	...	...	...	16680	17097
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	4926	5238
Rateable Value (1st April)	...	...	...	£261394	£279578
Rate per £1	...	...	...	23/-	23/8
Sum represented by 1d. Rate	...	...	...	£1100	£1175

BIRTHS :

Legitimate	...	...	...	Males	159	171
				Females	162	183
Illegitimate	...	...	...	Males	7	8
				Females	7	7
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	...	...	...		20.1	21.9
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population—						
Bucks County	...	...	...		18.6	18.6
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population—						
England and Wales	...	...	...		17.1	17.4
Still Births	...	...	...	Males	3	5
				Females	5	4

DEATHS :

				Males	67	89
				Females	59	49
Death Rate per 1,000 Population	...	...	...		7.6	8.2
Death Rate per 1,000 Population—						
Bucks County	...	...	...		9.7	9.4
Death Rate per 1,000 Population—						
England and Wales	...	...	...		11.5	12.0
Maternal Mortality	...	...	...		Nil	Nil
Maternal Mortality — England and						
Wales	...	...	...		0.39	0.11
Maternal Mortality—Bucks County	...	...	...		0.11	0.33

INFANTILE MORTALITY:

	1960	1961
Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births	14.9	21.7
Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births Bucks County ...	19.8	18.1
Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births England & Wales	21.7	21.4

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH:

	1960			1961		
	M	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis, other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal Infections ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cancer	15	6	21	13	8	21
Leukaemia	0	1	1	0	0	0
Diabetes	0	0	0	2	1	3
Cerebral Haemorrhage ...	4	8	12	9	11	20
Heart Disease	19	28	47	25	15	40
Other Circulatory Diseases ...	4	1	5	9	2	11
Influenza	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	7	1	8	4	1	5
Bronchitis	7	0	7	7	2	9
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	2	0	2	1	0	1
Digestive Diseases	1	0	1	1	0	1
Nephritis	1	1	2	0	0	0
Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	0	0	0	2	0	2
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	0	0	0	0	0	0
Congenital Causes	0	1	1	0	0	0
Accidents	3	5	8	7	0	7
Suicide	1	0	1	1	0	1
All Other Causes	3	7	10	8	9	17
Totals ...	67	59	126	89	49	138

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

1. LABORATORY SERVICES

The bacteriological work of the District has been carried out by the Public Health Laboratories at Bedford and Aylesbury. Samples of Water and Sewage for chemical analysis are sent to London.

2. AMBULANCE SERVICES

These services are administered by the County Council. An Ambulance Station with five Ambulances, four Utilicons and two Buses has been established in the Town which has dealt satisfactorily with all general cases including accidents.

3. NURSING FACILITIES

As in previous years the District Nurses carried on their very excellent and noble work.

4. CLINICS

(a) Maternity and Child Welfare: Weekly Clinics were held in the Clinic in Bletchley Road and fortnightly clinics in the Methodist Church, Warwick Road. The voluntary committees and health visitors attended each time and a doctor once a fortnight. The total number of attendances during the year by children was 3,277.

In October the Warwick Road Clinic moved into the new buildings in Whalley Drive and the Bletchley Road Clinic moved to the Spurgeon Memorial Baptist Church in Aylesbury Street.

The old clinic in Bletchley Road has been taken over for conversion into a training centre for mentally handicapped children.

The ladies of the voluntary committees have again to be thanked for giving so much of their time to this work.

(b) Chest Clinic: This clinic continues to do excellent work. It is a self-contained unit complete with X-ray apparatus, etc., and is under the personal supervision of the County Chest Physician. Sessions are held weekly.

(c) Physiotherapy Clinic: This Clinic, which is under the aegis of the British Red Cross Society performed another year of excellent service to the public.

(d) Ophthalmic Clinic: An ophthalmic surgeon and an orthoptist hold weekly clinics. In addition there is a special session on the first Saturday of each month for school children.

(e) Dermatological Clinic: A specialist in skin diseases attends twice monthly.

(f) Dental Clinic: This clinic continues to do very good work amongst the school children. A full time dental surgeon attends.

(g) **Toddlers' Clinic** : Due to increased work at the Child Welfare Clinic a special clinic was instituted for the toddlers. This is held on the fourth Friday of each month.

(h) **Health Visiting** : Four whole time Health Visitors have been appointed to the Bletchley area and they are doing excellent work.

(i) **Speech Therapy** : A qualified Speech Therapist attends weekly and is doing very excellent work among school children.

(j) **Care of the Blind** : The Home Teacher for the Blind has her headquarters at Bletchley Road Clinic, and attends there weekly.

(k) **Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic** : Weekly sessions are held and are attended by a specialist from Aylesbury.

The Diagnostic and Outpatient Clinic is now functioning well and in addition to Specialists in Ear Nose and Throat, Dermatology, Ophthalmology and Chest diseases who were already holding sessions in the Bletchley Road Clinic, Specialists in General Surgery, Orthopaedic Surgery, General Medicine, Gynaecology, Plastic Surgery, Paediatrics, and Psychiatry now attend.

It is proving a great boon to the town and has saved many a weary journey to the outpatient department at Aylesbury.

We still await practical evidence of the extension of the Maternity Services for the area the necessity for which has been accepted by the Regional Hospital Board.

5. HOSPITALS

The following hospitals served the area :—

Aylesbury Isolation Hospital
Bedford General Hospital
Creton Sanatorium
London Hospitals
Northampton General
Royal Bucks Hospital
St. John's Hospital, Stone
Slade Hospital, Oxford
Stoke Mandeville Hospital
Tindal General Hospital

6. DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

The domestic help organiser controls Bletchley and surrounding districts, and also Buckingham.

This service is doing excellent work particularly amongst the aged and chronic sick. One hundred and seventy-eight cases were helped during the year.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

A. WATER.

A pure and wholesome supply has been maintained throughout the district. The Bucks Water Board became the statutory undertakers for this service on April 1st, 1960.

Bacteriological and chemical samples were taken at various periods. No adverse reports were made as to bacteriological condition. A typical report on chemical analysis is as follows :

	Parts per million		
Suspended Solids	Nil	Oxygen consumed from Permanganate	0.032
Dissolved Solids	238.4	PH Value	7.77
Iron (as Fe)	.32	Free CO ₂	3.2
Chloride (as Cl ₂)	15.5	Temporary hardness	11.59
Free Ammonia	0.012	Permanent hardness	6.14
Albuminoid Ammonia	.024		
Nitrate (as N ₂)	Nil		
Nitrite	Nil		

B. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The sewage works has functioned satisfactorily. Samples of the effluent are taken regularly. No complaints of pollution have been received.

A new type of sludge dewatering plant has been in operation since November, 1960, and a duplicate plant is to be provided next year.

C. RIVERS AND STREAMS

Inspections are made of the few watercourses and ditches in the district. No pollution or flooding has taken place.

D. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

A few houses in Drayton Road and elsewhere in isolated places are still without main drainage.

E. PUBLIC CLEANSING

A weekly refuse collection is maintained in the district. Two large capacity closed vehicles are in use.

Controlled tipping at the Saldon Wood site has continued to be satisfactory.

F. SHOPS ACT

Administered by the County Council. No contraventions were noted.

H. SMOKE ABATEMENT

One complaint was received during the year. Remedial action was taken by the firm concerned.

The forthcoming electrifying of the main London railway line may reduce smoke from the engine sheds.

I. SWIMMING POOL

The open air swimming pool was again well patronised by some 26,000 people during the summer.

REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR AND CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTOR, MR. J. F. SMITHIE

The continuing expansion of the town has again been the main work of the surveying and engineering staff.

All public health duties relating to housing, food hygiene, building bye-laws, pest control, etc., as set out below have been carried out by Mr. N. J. Adams. Other departments connected with the well-being of the community are Works and Highways (Mr. G. Heap) and the Housing Department (Mr. T. Holderness, Mr. L. H. Randall).

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT ON
VISITS AND INSPECTIONS IN 1960

Public Health and Housing	Drainage	...	...	102
Acts 	Factories Act	...	...	26
Food and Drugs Act	Refuse disposal	...	...	12
Food Inspection	Rodent control	...	...	82
Butchers' premises	Infectious diseases	...	...	10
Slaughterhouse	Petroleum Acts	...	...	74
Ice cream premises	Interviews	...	...	175
Building Byelaws...	Total Visits and			
	Inspections	...		1738

SECTION D

HOUSING

Closing and demolition of unfit houses continued and at the end of 1961 only two unfit dwellings listed in the 1955 report were still occupied. A further survey of the district disclosed several more unfit houses which will be dealt with in the coming year.

SUMMARY OF HOUSING INSPECTIONS

Total number inspected and revisited under Public Health and Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	252
Houses unfit for habitation and due for clearance	...	...					7
Houses not in all respects fit where notices were served	...						16
Houses rendered fit by informal action	...	...	...				31
Statutory notices issued	...	...	...	...	...		2
Houses closed or subject to agreement not to re-let	...	...					1

A considerable number of visits were made in connection with overcrowding of houses occupied by foreign workers.

Two hundred and forty-four new Council dwellings and 68 private dwellings were completed during the year.

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. TYPES AND NUMBERS OF FOOD PREMISES

Butchers	...	...	...	14	Cafes	...	...	...	5
Fish Shops	...	...	...	5	Public Houses	...	...	...	21
Bakeries	...	...	...	1	Milk Retailers	...	...	...	7
General Food Shops	...	...	...	38					

2. Number of registered premises (ice-cream, cooked meat, etc.) 51

3. Two hundred and sixty-six inspections and visits were made to all types of food premises. Food condemned amounted to 2,420 lbs. This was disposed of by tipping at the Council's site with other refuse.

4. ICE CREAM

There are no manufacturers in the district using heat treatment. There is one small private manufacturer who obtains excellent results and one large nationally known distribution depot in the town. Thirty-one visits to shops selling ice-cream were made. Eight samples were taken, all of which were placed Grade 1 by the Bedford Public Health Laboratory.

5. FOOD HYGIENE

With the continuing expansion of the town come new and modern shops, well equipped with cold storage rooms, refrigeration and attractive layouts. The general standard of hygiene is satisfactory but once again the storage and disposal of refuse creates untidiness and potential nuisances despite a special trade refuse collection. There were no cases of food poisoning in the year.

6. MEAT

One small private slaughterhouse is licensed for the trade of the shop. The report has been submitted and accepted by the Ministry.

All other butchers obtain their meat from large centres in London, Luton and Northampton.

Inspection of animals slaughtered are detailed overleaf.

SECTION F

FACTORIES ACT

The requisite form of report is attached as an appendix to this report.

SECTION G : OTHER DUTIES

RODENT CONTROL. The joint area comprising Bletchley U.D.C., Newport U.D.C. and R.D.C., has dealt efficiently with all complaints of rats and mice. A bi-annual sewer treatment revealed a few persistent areas where rats have gained access to sewers and drains, and remedial work was carried out.

PETROLEUM REGULATIONS. Forty-one premises are licensed to store petroleum, in quantities ranging from a few gallons of cellulose to thousands of gallons at filling stations.

The 1960 regulations are in force and all but two premises now comply with the prescribed standards.

SECTION H

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

1. GENERAL

There was an epidemic of Measles in the first quarter of the year. This had been carried on from the previous year and was part of a general epidemic throughout the country.

2. NOTIFICATIONS

Measles	277	Scarlet Fever	12
Dysentery	2		

3. TUBERCULOSIS

Six new cases were notified, three of which were inward transfers. It is gratifying to report that again there were no deaths.

4. CANCER

There were 21 deaths from this disease during the year.

APPENDIX

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed (if known)	86	—	—	410	146	—
Number inspected ...	72	—	—	380	120	—
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	10	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	—	—	—	—	9	—
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Cysticercosis.</i>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937

PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	57	21	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	57	18		

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found. (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases".)

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...					
(b) Unsuitable or de- fective	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including of- fences relating to Out- work)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total					

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

<i>Nature of Work</i>	<i>Section 110</i>			<i>Section 111</i>		
	<i>No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prose- cutions</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel : Making, etc., Cleaning and Washing	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

